

## Message Text

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TAGS: OCON ECOSOC

SUBJ: ECOSOC COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES--CENTER FOR  
NATURAL RESOURCES RECOMMENDATIONS RE WATER CONFERENCE

1. THIS MSG. IS SECOND OF SIX MSGS. CONTAINING PRELIMINARY DRAFTS  
OF RECOMMENDATIONS PROPOSED BY VALDIMIR BAUM, WHICH REFLECT  
POSSIBLE ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AT  
FORTHCOMING TOKYO MEETING. THIS MSG. PERTAINS TO RECOMMENDATIONS  
REGARDING WATER CONFERENCE.

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1. THE COMMITTEE NOTED WITH INTEREST THE PROGRESS REPORT  
OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (E/C.7/48) ON THE PREPARATORY WORK  
FOR THE UNITED NATIONS WATER CONFERENCE  
AND THE SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENTS BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

2. THE COMMITTEE ENDORSED THE APPROACH OUTLINED IN THE  
PROGRESS REPORT. IT WELCOMED THE SUGGESTION THAT THE CONFERENCE  
SHOULD BE DIRECTED PRIMARILY TOWARDS CONSIDERATION OF MAJOR  
WATER POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ISSUES AND SHOULD SEEK TO  
PROMOTE THE LEVELS OF PREPAREDNESS NECESSARY AT THE NATIONAL,  
REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS TO AVERT A WORLD WATER CRISIS  
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WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DECADES. THE WIDESPREAD IMPROVEMENT OF

EXISTING WATER MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY IN THE USE AND RE-USE OF WATER IS ESSENTIAL IF THE STEEPLY RISING DEMAND FOR WATER FOR DOMESTIC, AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES IS TO BE SUCCESSFULLY MET IN THE LAST QUARTER OF THIS CENTURY. THE COMMITTEE CONSIDERED THAT THE REVISED PROVISIONAL AGENDA SUGGESTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND ANNEXED TO THIS REPORT WOULD PROVIDE A SATISFACTORY FRAMEWORK FOR THE CONFERENCE. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE COMMITTEE WELCOMED THE SUGGESTION THAT A PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF TOPICS 1 AND 2 SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN BY AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE, THUS ENABLING THE CONFERENCE ITSELF TO CONCENTRATE ON TOPICS 3 AND 4 DEALING WITH POLICY OPTIONS AND ACTION PROPOSALS.

3. THE COMMITTEE NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THE ARRANGEMENTS MADE TO ENSURE THAT THE PREPARATORY WORK WILL BE CONDUCTED AS A CO-OPERATIVE UNDERTAKING BY THE UNITED NATIONS AND ALL THE INTERESTED AGENCIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, AS WELL AS THE MAJOR NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITH WATER RESOURCES PROBLEMS. IT NOTED IN PARTICULAR THE STATEMENTS MADE BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF (INDIVIDUAL SPECIALIZED AGENCIES) (REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS) (UNEP) CONCERNING THE CONTRIBUTIONS THEIR ORGANIZATIONS WERE MAKING AND INTENDED TO MAKE TO THE PREPARATION OF THE CONFERENCE. THE COMMITTEE ENDORSED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PROPOSAL TO HOLD REGIONAL MEETINGS, IN COOPERATION WITH THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS IN 1976.

4. THE COMMITTEE HEARD WITH APPRECIATION THE STATEMENT MADE BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF ARGENTINA REGARDING THE CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS HIS GOVERNMENT WAS MAKING IN BUENOS AIRES AND CONSIDERED THAT THE DATE PROPOSED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA,-----TO -----1977, SHOULD BE ACCEPTED AS A BASIS FURTHER PLANNING.

5. THE COMMITTEE WELCOMED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S SUGGESTION THAT NATIONAL WATER CONFERENCE COMMITTEES SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED, BASED, WHEN POSSIBLE, ON EXISTING NATIONAL COMMITTEES FOR THE IHP OR OPH. IT BELIEVES THAT SUCH COMMITTEES COULD PROVIDE A VALUABLE INPUT TO THE PREPARATION OF THE CONFERENCE AND SERVE AS A FOCUS FOR NATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONFERENCE.

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6. THE COMMITTEE CONSIDERED THE SUGGESTION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE AND AGREED THAT, AS IN THE CASE OF OTHER MAJOR UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCES, A PREPARATORY BODY SHOULD BE SET UP TO PROVIDE THE SECRETARIAT WITH THE NECESSARY GOVERNMENTAL GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT IN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE ECOSOC

7. THE COMMITTEE ACCORDINGLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE COUNCIL:

(A) DECIDE TO ESTABLISH AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE CONFERENCE CONSISTING OF (27) STATES MEMBERS OF THE CNR, SELECTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CHARMAN OF THE CNR;

(B) DECIDE THAT THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE SHOULD HOLD ITS FIRST SESSION AT THE EARLIEST DATE POSSIBLE HAVING REGARD TO THE AVAILABILITY OF CONFERENCE FACILITIES AND IN ANY EVENT NOT LATER THAN JANUARY 1976;

(C) RECOMMEND THAT MEMBER STATES SHOULD ESTABLISH NATIONAL WATER CONFERENCE COMMITTEES, BASED WHEN POSSIBLE ON EXISTING IHP AND OPH COMMITTEES, AND SHOULD INFORM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE ACTION TAKEN IN THIS RESPECT;

(D) WELCOME THE ARRANGEMENTS MADE TO ENSURE COOPERATION AMONG THE AGENCIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM AND WITH MAJOR NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS;

(E) REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO PROCEED WITH THE PREPARATORY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CONFERENCE AND TO REPORT THEREON THROUGH THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE TO THE COUNCIL AT ITS (SUMMER 1976) SESSION. UNQTE  
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